

9-Line Target

Thank you for
two tremendous years!

Red Carpet Rollout

This week Whiteman welcomes ...

Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson
8th Air Force Commander

News in Brief

Wing change-of-command set

Col. Chris Miller will accept command of the 509th Bomb Wing from Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg in a change-of-command ceremony at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the 442nd Fighter Wing 5-bay hangar. Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson, 8th Air Force commander, will be the presiding official. For more details, call Lt. Col. Jeff Long, 393rd Bomb Squadron, at 687-1792.

Ozark Inn closes temporarily

The Ozark Inn temporarily closes its doors for renovations beginning April 30 after dinner. It's tentatively scheduled to reopen Aug. 1. For more details, see Page 3 or call Tech. Sgt. Gary James, 509th Services Squadron, at 687-5476.

Auto skills offers deployment support

The auto skills center offers a free oil change and overall auto checkup for spouses of deployed members. To use these services, spouses must get a voucher from the family support center. For more details, call the auto skills center at 687-5689.

Alcohol laws not limited to cars

Laws regarding driving under the influence aren't limited to operating automobiles. Anyone who consumes alcohol and operates any motorized vehicle including motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, motorized scooters, or heavy equipment could possibly face a driving under the influence charge. Refusal to take a breathalyzer test, or submit to field sobriety tests, will result in the loss of driving privileges.

Post office closed after duty hours

Due to recent vandalism and thefts in and around the post office, the building will be locked after duty hours until further notice. The new hours are 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. weekdays and 9-11 a.m. Saturdays. Post office box users will no longer have access to their mail after duty hours. For more details, call Staff Sgt. Cleo Davis, 509th Communications Squadron, at 687-5107.

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Photo by Maj. Don Langley

Col. Ned Schoeck, 509th Bomb Wing vice commander, and Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg, 509th BW commander, listen to the Unit Compliance Inspection team's final briefing Saturday.

Wing near-perfect during UCI

By Maj. Don Langley
Public Affairs

The 509th Bomb Wing posted one of the best Unit Compliance Inspection results in the history of Air Combat Command April 13-17.

Only a little over 1 percent of the 646 Critical Compliance Objectives evaluated by the team were found not to comply with ACC standards — the best result for a wing-level inspection in the past two years.

The inspectors recognized a benchmark 167 individual superior performers, 31 superior teams and seven best practices, while calling the wing's Tactics and Training Program "one of the best seen to date." No findings were listed in the team's final report.

"This wing was as well prepared as any I've inspected in my last two and a half years," said Col. James Long, ACC inspection team chief. "The overall results were outstanding."

ACC's high marks came after months of unit preparation. The 509th BW became the first unit to successfully use a specialized computer database to compile information on every area of evaluation.

"By using the database, we went into the inspection with pretty high confidence," said Lt. Col. Fred Niblock, 509th BW Plans Office and UCI project officer. "We identified areas to improve and the inspection team validated that. The bottom line is through our preparation program, there were very few surprises, even

with 600-plus areas inspected. That's a credit to the wing."

"We just set the bar," said Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg, 509th BW commander. "From the (Nuclear Surety Staff Assistance Visit) to the (Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team) to the Unit Compliance Inspection, we're now ready to step out. We don't have to answer for findings — we can launch into focusing on our Phase I and Phase II preparations."

The UCI database now forms a foundation for future performance, said Lt. Col. Randy Rose, 509th Bomb Wing Plans Office chief. The wing plans office will conduct quarterly reviews of areas that either did not comply or complied with comments. An annual review will look at all compliance objectives.

"We want to keep our self-inspections up to date with a high level of compliance," Colonel Rose said. "It's less work now that we have a good program and can track our few areas of noncompliance. Like exercising, we feel good right now, but we need to keep it up."

Superior Performers

Teams — Aerospace Ground Equipment Tiger Team, 509th Maintenance Squadron
Aircraft Parts Store Team, 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Base Information Transfer Center Team, 509th Communications Squadron
Command Post Controller Team,

509th BW

Commander Support Staff Team,
509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Computer Systems Helpdesk Team, 509th LRS
Data Base Team, 509th BW
Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Emergency Response Team, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron
Family Support Center Team,
509th Mission Support Squadron
Financial Services Team, 509th Comptroller Squadron
Flight Training Scheduling Team,
394th Combat Training Squadron
Fuels Resource Enhancement Team, 509th LRS
Intelligence Mobility Team, 509th Operations Support Squadron
Intelligence Training Team, 509th OSS
Landing Gear Team, 509th MXS
Military Justice/Adverse Action Team, 509th BW
Personnel Readiness Function
509th MSS
Personnel Relocations 509th MSS
Plans Team, 509th CS
Real Estate Team, 509th CES
Scheduling Team, 509th Operations Group
Services Training Team, 509th Services Squadron
Tracer Action Focus Team, 509th LRS
Unit Deployment Manager 509th AMXS
Weapons Standardization Team,

See UCI, Page 4

Commander's Corner

By Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg
509th Bomb Wing Commander

A LAST FULL MEASURE OF GRACE AND THANKS. It's time for the Raabergs to bid our most cherished Whiteman Team farewell. Like you, the Air Force has another assignment waiting for us. With it comes a measure of grace of a command that has blessed us immeasurably. You have made all the difference for us and for that alone, we are deeply thankful. Let me share some final notes.

Whiteman has come of age in the past two years because of you. Look back and you'll see that we have experienced a transformation many ought to contemplate. Take the 442nd Fighter Wing and the 509th Bomb Wing. In the past, one wing has been considered the tenant, the other the host. I believe we are more alike than assuming the roles of a "reserve" and "active" set of flying wings. We are now a mutual team that has done more together, than mutually exclusive.

The combat chronicles will show that our A-10 fighters initially occupied and conducted operations from Baghram, Afghanistan; Tikrit and Kirkuk, Iraq. How did they get there? First, it took a few B-2 stealth sorties from Whiteman and our forward operating location to surgically shut down those airfields; rendering them mission incapable for the enemy.

Second, it took a great team effort here at home to mobilize people, jets and equipment to deploy. Admit it, we worked together to make that happen.

Third, in some cases we had members from both units supporting the same operation on the ground as the 509th contributed

heavily to bridge the gap for Air Expeditionary Force 7/8 before, during and after Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Finally, our same community partners, families and friends welcomed us home for the next eight months. We have transformed into a true Expeditionary Air Force Team ... for that, I am thankful.

Those who serve at Whiteman, serve with distinction — every Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Civilian and Contractor! Take the MIUWU-114 and 1-135th Attack Battalion. While we were preparing to deliver decisive "shock and awe" with the B-2s and sustain combat operations with the A-10, our Navy Reserves were in place to seize the initiative from southern Iraq. Again, the combat chronicles will show that the port of Um Qasr was a key node for the entire ground offensive — the 114th seized and operated it with perfection. They earned their combat spurs. Simultaneously, the Missouri Army National Guard 1st Attack supported homeland defense with members deployed for Noble Eagle, continued conversion to the Apache helicopter and continually provided airborne surveillance of our installation (and surrounding area) with their observation helicopters.

Every civilian employee and contractor was engaged at home or abroad. They change the calculus. When we deploy, they carry the extra load at home. When they deploy, they make the added measure of difference in our combat capability. In short, all have transformed us into a Total Force Installation ... for that, I am thankful that we focus on One Team, One Fight!

I would like to personally thank my wing staff for their hard work and personal



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Schroder

Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, defends himself against a wet welcome after his final B-2 flight. Airman 1st Class Kevin Coughlin, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, helps General Raaberg's wife, Claudia, operate the fire hose.

dedication to the mission. Col. Ned Schoeck, 509th BW/CV; Cozette Hoefer (my boss); Lt. Col. Bruce "Pops" Adams, Staff Director; Capts. Gary Pillow and Dave Thompson, the sharpest execs; Chief Master Sgt. Keith Cobb, our former CCM; Jo Ostendorf and her protocol team: Master Sgt. Ben "Mac" McClellan, Tech. Sgt. Walt Farwell and Senior Airman Tim Owens; the admin staff of Master Sgt. Cory Nicholson, Tech. Sgt. Sam Stoecklin, Staff. Sgt. Randee Jo Dietrick and Senior Airman Jade Menchavez have taken Whiteman to new heights as they too have all units in their cross check. Chief Master Sgt. Ken Huls, thank you for taking the reins as our acting

command chief master sergeant.

Claudia and I will forever be grateful for how much you have made this an assignment of epic proportion. There is grace and strength in all who make up the Spirit of Team Whiteman ... we have felt that every day. It feels good to be a part of this family. As I press on to Central Command's forward headquarters in the Middle East, I will have one mission in mind — to make every Airmen, Soldier, Sailor, Marine and Civilian successful! I believe the grace of this command has given us the blessing to make our Airmen in the 509th Bomb Wing equally successful and to return home safely. For that, we are ultimately thankful.

Stepping out to police our neighborhoods



Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Senior Airman Alexandra Esselman, 509th Security Forces Squadron "B" Flight member, patrols Minuteman Drive.

By Master Sgt. Mark Kinner

509th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement Superintendent

Have you noticed members of the 509th Security Forces Squadron walking around the housing areas?

The security force members are taking advantage of the warming weather and longer daylight hours to patrol the base neighborhoods on foot. No, we aren't looking for someone specific and there hasn't been an increase in crime in the housing area. This is an opportunity for our people on patrol to talk with the people of Whiteman. We'll soon be handing out pamphlets addressing frequently asked questions and programs offered by security forces.

When you see the patrols in the neighborhood, give them a wave and if you have questions — ask. They're there to answer them. I'd like to take this opportunity to provide some information on three programs sponsored by the 509th SFS.

CLICK IT OR TICKET — This year's campaign takes place May 24 through June 6. This program provides a continued emphasis on wearing seatbelts by all occupants of a vehicle. Security forces members will check for the proper wear of seatbelts at randomly selected intersections around base and at all installation entry points. The goal is 100 percent compliance with Whiteman AFB Instruction 31-204, Installation Traffic Code, and to establish the habit of buckling up every time drivers and passengers are traveling in a vehicle.

Whether it's for a summer vacation or a weekend trip to explore the local area, people can increase chances of a safe return by establishing the habit.

OPERATION QUARTERS WATCH — This is provided by the squadron for members living on base. Military housing residents are encouraged to inform security forces when a vacation or temporary duty

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Editorial Staff

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OIC, Internal Information 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen
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The deadline for article submissions to the *Whiteman Spirit* is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Dining hall options

The Ozark Inn will close temporarily beginning April 30. Whiteman members have several on-base options for meals during the Ozark Inn renovation project. Mission's End, Stars & Strikes and the base exchange concessionaires are available as alternate dining locations. Airmen living in the dorms and enlisted members assigned to Whiteman will receive the rations-in-kind-not-available rate of basic allowance for subsistence at \$8.75 per day during the renovations. The new BAS rate takes effect in the May 15 paycheck. The Ozark Inn is scheduled to re-open for business Aug. 1. Upon re-opening, enlisted members will revert to previous BAS rates — meal card deductions for dorm residents — and \$8.48 per day for other enlisted members. For more details on BAS, call the 509th Comptroller Squadron at 687-5389.

Mission's End

Breakfast

6-8 a.m. weekdays

Lunch

11 a.m.-1 p.m. weekdays

Dinner (Bar Menu)

4-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday

Stars & Strikes

Breakfast

6-9:30 a.m. weekdays

8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday

Lunch and Dinner

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday

11 a.m.-midnight

8:30 a.m.-midnight

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

Base Exchange

Burger King

6 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays

7 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday

Anthony's Pizza

10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday

11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sunday

Robin Hood

10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays

10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday

Grab & Go (Robin Hood)

11 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

COMACC Re: e-mail

By Gen. Hal Hornburg

Commander, Air Combat Command

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) — For today's warrior, information overload is a common occurrence and the amount of e-mail we receive — and send — must be reduced.

Specifically, the time spent opening, reading, sorting and filing e-mail is becoming unmanageable. That's why I asked the ACC Administrative Communications Office to develop the "Commander's Guide to Managing E-mail."

E-mail is an effective tool for accomplishing a diverse set of tasks in an expedient manner. However, there's a time and use for every tool and e-mail cannot replace face-to-face communications for critical issues — there's no such thing as "digital leadership."

How commanders use e-mail to perform the mission will set the tone for the unit. If you accomplish activities primarily through e-mail and apply good business rules and practices, your troops will follow.

The guide contains my "top ten" list on e-mail and includes professional courtesies and military etiquette rules to follow. It also contains useful tips about maintaining folders and step-by-step instructions on using rules and wizards for managing important correspondence.

From our senior leadership to the newest Airman, we must streamline our use of e-mails to accomplish the mission without spending the bulk of our time behind the computer. All Air Force warriors should use this guide to apply good business rules and practices, standardizing our use of e-mail.

I challenge all Airmen to review this guide and develop effective rules and practices for using e-mail.



Online form required for officer education process

Preference sheet aides IDE/SDE selection board

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — All eligible officers wanting to compete for developmental education opportunity in the 2005-2006 school year must now complete the required preference application online. The 2004 Developmental Education Designation Boards meets here Oct. 4-8.

The newly developed senior and intermediate developmental education nomination application is the tool in the developmental education process where nominees make their school preferences known to their senior rater, their development teams and the developmental education board. The application, available all day, every day from any Internet-connected computer, must be completed by the officer and senior rater by May 21.

"This is their chance to provide input to their own development path," said Lt. Col. Kathryn Moene, AFPC's force development branch chief. "The Web-based application is user-friendly, saving time and effort for officers and their senior raters."

To access the application, officers can go to the AFPC Developmental Education site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/pme>. Once there, those eligible will should click the "Web-based 3849 application" button — which will take them to the AFPC Secure site.

Officers can select up to five school choices from a drop-down menu and give a synopsis of why they should attend that school.

"The space to provide comments is smaller, so nominees focus on why they should go to a certain school, and how that school preference impacts their development," said Colonel Moene.

Once an officer completes the application by clicking "submit," they are automatically taken to the Assignment Management System Web site at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm>, where they should check to ensure their Transitional Officer Developmental Plan is current. A current T-ODP is also mandatory for this process. The application is then made available to the senior rater who will input the comments and nominate the officer — all done online.

Following the senior rater's signature, the developmental application is reviewed by the appropriate force development team, the colonel said. These teams of career field experts will recommend the appropriate developmental opportunity for each officer based on that officer's background, school preferences and senior rater's input.

For more information, officers should contact their local military personnel flight or visit AFPC's officer developmental education Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/pme>.



Courtesy Photo

The sentinel

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Senior Airman Jacqueline Priessman, 509th Security Forces Squadron, scans the flightline for any enemies at a deployed location in Southwest Asia. Airman Priessman ensures the security for aircraft departing and arriving from the base. She is assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

UCI, continued from Page 1

509th MXG
325th Aircraft Maintenance Unit UCI
Prep Team, 509th AMXS
325th Weapons and Tactics Team, 325th Bomb Squadron
393rd AMU UCI Prep Team, 509th AMXS
393rd Weapons and Tactics Team, 393rd BS
509th Maintenance Operations Squadron UCI Prep Team, 509th MOS
509th Operations Group Training Team, 509th OSS
Individuals — Maj. **David Benson**, 509th OSS, and **Richard Bohn**, 393rd BS, **Marc Miller**, 509th OSS.
Capt. **Jonathan Eckerman**, 325th BS, **Darryl Engelke**, 394th CTS, **Timothy Peckham**, 509th OSS, **Alan Sanders**, 325th BS, and **Steven Smart**, 509th BW.
First Lts. **Kenneth Feters**, 509th MXG, **Keith Johnson**, 509th MOS, **Jeffrey Shames**, 509th SVS, and **John Thorne**, 509th OSS.
Second Lts. **Perry Goebel**, 509th Munitions Squadron, **Kelli Green**, 509th Security Forces Squadron, **Mark Koepen**, 509th CPTS, **Dawn Nichols**, 509th LRS, **Jaylene Sanchez**, 509th LRS, and **Shannon Wagner**, 509th OSS.
Senior Master Sgt. **Scott Savage**, 509th MXS.
Master Sgts. **Robert Blacklock**, 509th SFS, **Peter Blaszczyk**, 509th MXG, **Luis Brito**, 509th MXS, **Pierre Charles**, 509th OSS, **David Doty**, 509th MOS, **Mark Kinner**, 509th SFS, **Charles Lawber**, 509th LRS, **Richard Rivera**, 509th OG, **Patrick Rodriguez**, 509th CES, **Scott Thaut**, 509th BW, **Dean Turner**, 509th CES, **Robert Venekamp**, 509th SFS, and **Joseph Whitehair**, 509th MXG.
Tech Sgts. **Maria Althoff**, 509th AMXS, **Richard Baldwin**, 509th LRS, **Daniel Beumer**, 509th AMXS, **Stephen Bradford**, 509th SFS, **Debra Brinzow**, 509th MXS, **James Burge**, 509th CES, **Matthew Carroll**, 509th MXS, **David Cotrell**, 509th LRS, **Steven Crane**, 509th SFS, **Juan Delagarza** 509th MUNS, **Travis Deshong**, 509th MUNS, **Michael Ellis**, 509th SFS, **David Gillingham**, 509th MUNS, **James Greenlaw**, 509th SFS, **Daryl Harris**, 509th AMXS, **Billy Haston**, 509th LRS, **Kevin Hendershot**, 509th MUNS, **Steven Hertig**, 509th LRS, **Paul Hogan**, 509th AMXS, **John Lagassey**, 509th CES, **Michael Majewski**, 509th AMXS, **Russell Marroon**, 509th MXS, **John McKeehan**, 509th AMXS, **Kari Miller**, 509th AMXS, **Vicki Miller**, 509th MOS, **Michael Mitchell**, 509th SFS, **Carl Morton**, 509th MOS, **Robert Oday**, 509th MXS, **Curtis Papenfuhs**, 509th MXS, **Brian Remmert**, 509th CS, **William Roe** 509th AMXS, **Joseph Rosinski**, 509th LRS, **Heather Sells**, 509th MUNS, **John Stemple**, 509th CONS, **Samuel Stewart**, 509th CONS, **Tina Tafolla**, 509th CS, **Jeffrey Thomas**, 509th SVS, **John Waller**, 509th AMXS, **Jerry Waller**, 509th MXG, and **Thomas Wimmer**, 509th MXG.
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Airmen 1st Class **David Beck**, 509th AMXS, **Michael Becton** 509th SFS, **Brandon Britton**, 509th AMXS, **John Calvano**, 509th CS, **Mark Curry**, 509th OSS, **Casandra Curtis**, 509th CES, **Edwin Evans**, 509th MUNS, **Anthony Gapczynski**, 509th MOS, **Stephan Grozik**, 509th CES, **Benjamin Hokanson**, 509th CES, **Jeffrey Klein**, 509th OSS, **David Morin** 509th LRS, **Joseph Parks**, 509th MXS, **Kristopher Robinson**, 509th MXS, **Nicolas Velati**, 509th MOS, **Joshua Williams**, 509th SFS, **Robert Wilson**, 509th SFS, and **Stephan Zdebski**, 509th SFS.
Airman **Ashley Baldwin**, 509th MOS.
GS-11 **Geraldine Robinson**, 509th CON.
Leslie Corbett and **Jimmie Shirley**, 509th MSS.
John Luke, 509th CES.
Zachary Adamson and **Nicholas Roos**, 509th SVS.

Army Air Force

Hometown

News

Did you know you can fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266, Hometown News Release, for a variety of accomplishments? For more details, call Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp at 687-6128.

Brothers by blood, siblings of stealth



By Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan
Public Affairs

Brian and Brad Cochran took different roads to reach their dreams of flight.

But those paths led to the same destination: flying one of the Air Force's most prestigious aircraft. The captains became the first brothers to qualify as B-2 pilots in the its 10-year history.

"As kids we always imagined we'd be pilots," said Brian, a major-select. "I don't think we'd ever imagined that we would be sitting in the same base, flying the same airplane."

Not just any plane either. Only a select few pilots qualify to fly the B-2. Currently there are less than 300 certified B-2 pilots on active duty.

"To be selected as a B-2 pilot isn't an easy thing to do," said Brian, a 393rd Bomb Squadron member. "But to be here with a brother, that's pretty unique. This is the most advanced weapons system on the planet. For us to be able to fly it as members of the B-2 team — as brothers — is a great opportunity."

Born to be a pilot

Their father, Bill Cochran, said he had fond memories of taking his youngest son, Brad, to an Air Force base flight line.

"Look dad," Brad would say pointing at an aircraft. "Someday, I'm going to be a pilot."

Brad knew at an early age he would someday become a pilot and an Air Force officer. As a youth, Brad enjoyed attending air shows, and visiting military museums.

"Ever since I can remember, I've wanted to fly," Brad said.

During his junior year of high school, Brad joined the Civil Air Patrol. Through CAP, he received his private pilot's license. He seemed primed to reach his goal of qualifying for pilot training. But five years later, during his junior year at Brigham Young University, he hit a detour.

The Air Force had selected him for navigator training, not the pilot training he had coveted since his youth.

"I think he thought all of his hard work had been in vain," said Bill.

Brad remained undeterred from his dream. He instead used the selection as motivation. He spoke with his father, then a lieutenant colonel stationed at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, who encouraged him to stay focused. Brad said he looked to his father for inspiration. Bill, now retired after 28 years' service in the Air Force, was a logistics planner in international sales and sustainment.

Brad continued to work hard, and focused on his training and education. During his senior year, he became the vice commander of his cadet wing.

"I think he was a little disappointed," said Brian. "But he remembered first and foremost he wanted to become an Air Force officer. Sometimes you're going to face adversity but you overcome that by continuing to work hard. That's what he did."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Capt. Brad and Brian Cochran are the first brothers in the Air Force to become certified as B-2 pilots. Brad is a 325th Bomb Squadron member and Brian is a 393rd Bomb Squadron member.

Six months later, Brad got his chance. He qualified for joint specialized undergraduate pilot training at Vance AFB, Okla. He also graduated from BYU with a degree in international relations.

In July 1998, with his mother, Shirley, and sisters Stacy, Sheri and Shantelle looking on, Brad stood proudly as Bill and Brian placed silver wings on his chest, signifying his graduation from pilot training, and officially making him an Air Force pilot. After the ceremony, Brad turned to his father, who placed a hand on his shoulder.

"You made it," said Bill, beaming with pride.

The boy who fantasized about flight had finally reached his dream.

While stationed at Charleston AFB, S.C., Brad flew combat missions in Tirana, Albania, during Operation Allied Force. In October 2001, night one of Operation Enduring Freedom, Brad flew the lead of two C-17s to deliver humanitarian rations to displaced Afghans.

From the court to the skies

Brian also flew as a youth, but not in a plane; on a basketball court. An avid hoops player, Brian decorated his room with posters of his idols, basketball greats Earvin "Magic" Johnson and Michael Jordan. He fantasized about playing NBA and collegiate basketball.

"He loved (basketball)," said Shirley. "He lived and breathed it."

His skills flourished. But he would be hampered by one shortcoming.

Standing only 5-foot-9 inches, and weighing in at about 130 pounds much of Brian's competition towered above him.

But with a ball in his hands Brian hovered above them with his skills, sometimes literally. Despite his lack of size, Brian could dunk on defenders and he led his high school team in scoring.

But attending high school in Panama made it difficult for colleges to scout him, Bill said. A shoulder injury during his senior year further damaged his athletic scholarship hopes. He decided to attend BYU and try to walk onto the basketball team. But a broken collarbone while playing pickup football kept him out of tryouts.

"I wanted to be a professional athlete," Brian said. "But it wasn't in the cards."

While disappointed, he decided to put away his basketball shoes and focus on education. He didn't look at becoming an Air Force pilot -- yet. He spoke to his father about other options, and decided to enter the medical field as a freshman in the fall of 1989.

It wasn't until after a two-year missionary trip to Venezuela that Brian realized his destiny was in the Air Force skies.

That fiery competitor still lingered inside him when Brian decided to apply for an Air Force pilot training program.

Competing against thousands of applicants nationwide for 130 pilot slots, he spent countless hours on academics and exercising. Brian qualified for pilot training in 1995 and graduated with a double major in international relations and Spanish.

Brian attended Euro-NATO Joint Jet pilot training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, and gradu-

ated in 1997.

During Operation Desert Fox in 1998, Brian led the largest conventional cruise missile attack ever when he spearheaded a

six-ship formation of B-52s, striking targets in Iraq.

In OAF, Brian helped destroy emerging targets in Kosovo in 1999. Brian said much of his success comes from his hours in the simulator and practice sorties. He said he views each practice sortie with the same intensity as a real-world combat mission, just as he played each basketball practice as if it were an actual game.

"Playing sports provided that sense of competition and the sense of striving to do my best," Brian said.

B-2 bound

In August 2000, Bill, Brian and Brad decided to take a hiking trip to the Wind Rivers Mountain Range in Wyoming. The Cochrans, who enjoyed camping since they were in the Boy Scout program as youth, fished, hiked and made campfires during their trek.

One night, while eating some fresh catch, the Cochrans spoke about career plans. Brian had some good news.

Brian had been invited to Whiteman for an interview. Brad also planned to apply for the B-2 program.

"I was pretty excited about it, probably more than (Brian and Brad) were," Bill



Courtesy photo

Brian Cochran as an ROTC cadet at Brigham Young University in 1995.



Courtesy photo

Brad Cochran at 10, already dreaming of flying.

BROTHERS, continued from Page 6 —

said.

Brian reported to Whiteman for B-2 training in May 2001. Brad, who qualified a few months later, would follow in August 2002 first for T-38 training, then for B-2 training two months later. The B-2 was unlike any other aircraft the Cochrans had seen. It could fly 6,000 miles without refueling. It could make munitions drops undetected in enemy airspace.

“I feel very privileged flying (the B-2),” Brad said. “It’s an incredible combat aircraft.”

As the 393rd’s chief of short-range scheduling, Brian schedules sorties, continuation training sorties, simulator sessions and leave time. Brad is the 325th’s assistant weapons and tactics officer, tracking each pilot’s weapons qualification and training.

Because they’re blood relatives, Brian and Brad can’t fly the same aircraft. However, should the need arise, they can deploy to the fight in the same formation.

Today, rarely a day goes by when the Cochran brothers don’t see each other. They live two blocks apart, attend the same church and their children have grown up together.

The Cochran brothers believe their years of hard work, studying, planning, preparing and training brought them to the B-2 and Whiteman.

“I’m extremely proud,” Brad said. “I’m proud to be here with my brother. It’s a great opportunity to live down the street from my brother and be able to fly this airplane. It’s great to be among the people who fly this airplane.”

“Both of us are driven in what we wanted to do,” Brian said. “Part of that drive comes from an inner desire to succeed.”

A childhood dream and competitiveness on basketball courts may have helped.

“The kind of men they’ve become is to their credit,” said their mother, Shirley. “We encouraged them and led the way, but it was up to them to follow and become who they’re going to be.”

Neighborhood, continued from Page 2 ■

requires them to be away from home.

Before leaving, stop by the law enforcement desk, located at Bldg. 711, Room 306, to let them know. Provide the desk sergeant with the dates you’ll be gone and who you would like to have contacted in case of an emergency. A patrol will check your home a minimum of once every 24 hours.

For people living in Knob Noster and Warrensburg, a similar program is offered through the local police department. For more details, call the Knob Noster Police Department at 563-2233 and Warrensburg Police Department at 747-9134. Knowing someone has an eye on your home allows you to relax at least a little more while you’re away.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH — This program provides the eyes and ears to make our community a safer place for all residents. In the simplest form, this is no more than being a good neighbor and keeping an eye out for those around you. It also means watching for when things are different, unusual or obviously just wrong and illegal. In any of these circumstances, make sure a call is made to the law enforcement desk, 687-3700 or 911 (if there’s an emergency), to report activity that doesn’t look right.

From all of the men and women of the 509th SFS, we hope your summer plans are enjoyable and safe. We know with everyone’s this summer can be incident-free and without mishap. We simply must think every time, “are the procedures in place and is the plan sound for the activity that is being undertaken?” If you would like additional information on these programs please contact Staff Sgt. Kevin Higgs at 687-4482.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Hup 2-3-4

Air Force ROTC members from the Illinois Institute of Technology march to the 442nd Fighter Wing 5-Bay Hangar from the Ozark Inn during a base tour. The 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs staff, coordinates and conducts base tours for Junior ROTC, and college ROTC detachments, and the public. Public tour dates are pre-set and can be subject to change based on mission requirements. For more details, visit <http://www.whiteman.af.mil> and click on the “Public Tours” link.



Photo by Senior Airman Nick Martin

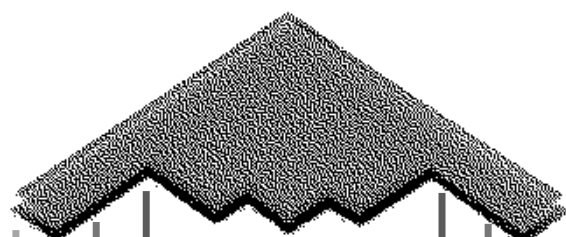
Prepping the playground

Dario Quintana and Mike Johnson, of SelRico Contractors in Knob Noster, clear away construction fencing before opening the newly painted playground equipment on Westover Road. Selrico, the housing maintenance contractor, has begun exterior inspections and maintenance of the housing area. This work includes trimming overgrown bushes and trees, painting, and checking gutters and roofs. For more details, call the housing office at 687-7171.

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Submitting a Whiteman Spirit Award

Individuals are nominated from within their units or by customers impressed by the individual making Whiteman a better place to live and work by going far beyond his or her assigned duties to "make it happen."

If you know someone who has the Whiteman Spirit, send the nomination to the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 509, Suite 111, or e-mail whiteman.spirit@Whiteman.af.mil.

Whiteman Spirit Award



1st Lt. Jon Deck

509th Operations Support Squadron

First Lt. Jon Deck, 509th Operations Support Squadron, received the Whiteman Spirit Award from Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Tuesday.

Capt. Timothy Peckham, 509th Operations Support Squadron, nominated Lieutenant Deck for the award.

Lieutenant Deck is the 509th BW special security representative and is responsible for the security of sensitive compartmented information. He created a deployed mission planning cell at the alert facility to extend the SCI facility.

The new facility in the alert building is a secure operating station for B-2 mission planners, current intelligence, targeteers, communications crew and radar cross section technicians during exercises, said Captain Peckham.

Captain Peckham said the lieutenant gathered necessary requirements for the facility for intel and mission planning for power, communications and security. He also conducted site surveys with the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron and the program security office. Lieutenant Deck then gave work orders to the 509th Communications Squadron and the 509th CES to determine the project's cost. Then he ensured funding by working with the wing plans office from the group commander. He didn't stop there.

After funding was approved, Lieutenant Horenziak made numerous follow-up visits to ensure the project stayed on course.

"Lieutenant Deck's bulldog tenacity overcame numerous obstacles in the process of extending our sensitive compartmented information facility," Capt. Peckham said. "His dedication to the project made it a success."

Personally Speaking

Duty title: Intelligence Readiness Chief

Time on station: 2 years 1 month

Time in service: 3 years

Hometown: Sioux City, Iowa.

Spouse: Liz

Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, exercising and reading.

Goals: To strive for success. It doesn't matter what task or goal you have set for yourself, the important thing is to excel in that area.

Best thing about Whiteman: The B-2 weapon system. Being a part of the mission planning process, and in the aftermath, I get to see how much death and destruction we bring to our enemies.

Pet peeves: People who don't care about the job. The work you do and how you present yourself is a direct reflection on the organization you represent. Don't ignore programs or processes that are broken. The buck stops somewhere and it might as well be you who stops it.

What motivates your winning spirit? My motivation comes from the understanding that the military has an extremely important job to do. If we foul it up it's only going to make it more painful in the end for the people who will eventually replace us.

If you could change one thing at Whiteman, what would it be? The few people with the "can't do" attitude. Don't be afraid to ask why something can't be done. Always take a task from a supervisor with a "can do" attitude. Our success today has a direct impact on the future 509ers.

America's Air Force
Cross into
the Blue





Civilian Employee of the Week

Greg Smith was nominated for this award by Staff Sgt. Jason Keane, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron. Mr. Smith is a fire inspector assigned to the 509th CES Fire Prevention Shop. He's responsible for inspecting every facility on base ensuring the buildings are up to current fire codes. He also oversees AF form 332 coordinations, flight line extinguisher maintenance programs and conducts monthly fire drills around base. He's also the Whiteman Crash Fire Fighters Association vice president. Sergeant Keane said Mr. Smith's a job is demanding and difficult. "Mr. Smith helps people at the drop of a hat with absolute professionalism and courtesy and has a smile on his face when he does it," Sergeant Keane said.

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Whiteman's Dr. Dolittles



Lisa Wolken, 509th Services Squadron veterinary clerk, pulls one of the more than 1,400 active animal records on file. The clinic's primary mission is to provide veterinary services for the military working dogs stationed here, and prevent and treat zoonotic diseases. The clinic also provides animal care for privately-owned cats and dogs of active duty, retired and reservists on active-duty orders and Department of Defense members.

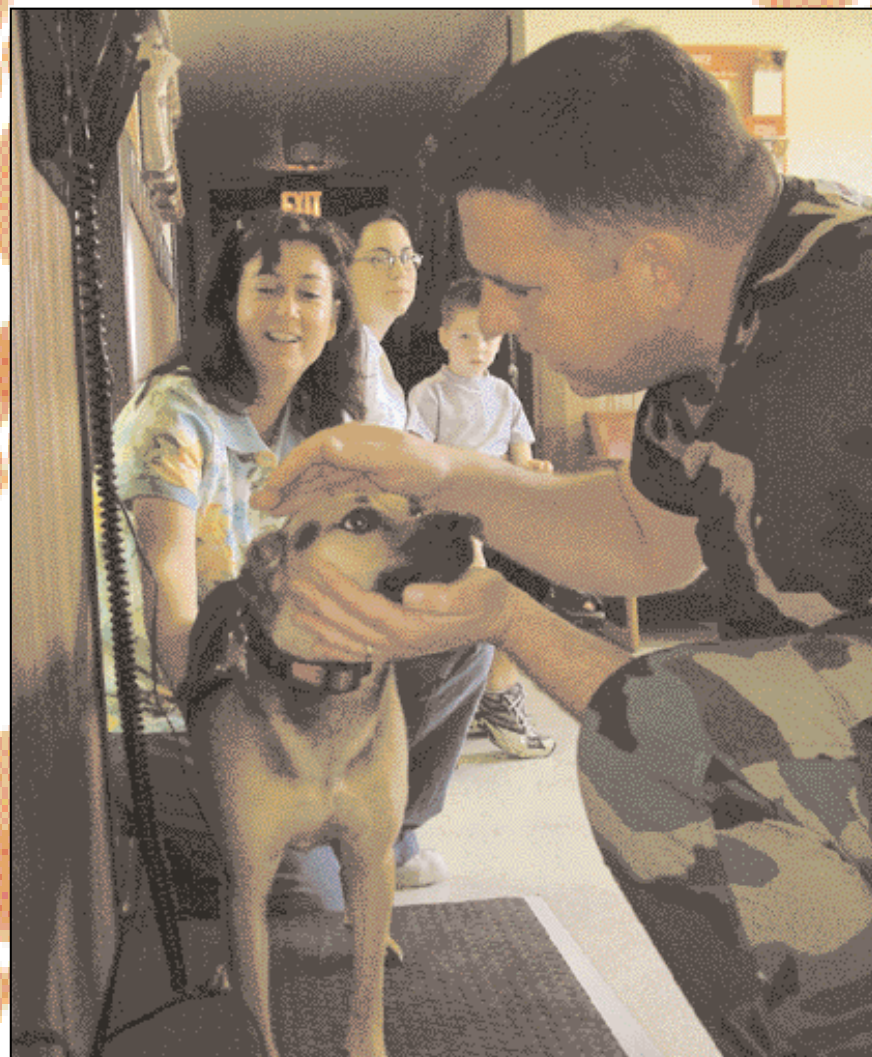


Photos by Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp

Natalie Smith, veterinary technician volunteer, examines a specimen under a microscope. The base vet clinic offers testing for heartworm, feline leukemia, intestinal parasites, ear and skin parasites and diseases, and tick-borne diseases. Pets can also receive immunizations for rabies, distemper, bordetella and feline leukemia. The clinic is open 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. weekdays.



Four-legged patients and their owners wait to be seen. The vet clinic staff has two full-time members, one volunteer technician and two part-time veterinarians. The staff provides care for more than 90 pets per month. Pets are seen by appointment only due to limited staffing hours. To make an appointment or for more details, call 687-2667.



Army Staff Sgt. James Costin, Whiteman Veterinary Clinic NCO in charge, pets Kimmy as he weighs her. Kimmy's owner, Rachel Sanchez, wife of Lt. Col. Andy Sanchez, 509th Operation Support Squadron, looks on. Patients are weighed before receiving care to ensure accurate growth and medication dosages.



Army Reserve Col. (Dr.) Robert Lane uses a stethoscope to check the heartbeat of Bear, a German Shepherd and Great Pyrenees mix. Doctor Lane has been a veterinarian for 33 years and works as a public health vet when not on duty. Under direction of Army Capt. (Dr.) Stephen Cassle, Whiteman Veterinary Clinic OIC, the clinic offers a microchipping program. Microchipping is an identification method that uses a biocompatible glass incased microchip, the same used in human pace makers, encoded to give a permanent identification number to a pet in case it gets lost. A microchipping clinic takes place 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. June 25 by appointment only.

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Joe Lacdan

Going up

Walter Coston, 393rd Bomb Squadron, does pull-ups at the fitness center. Air Force members are reminded to stay fit to keep up with the service’s new fitness standards. The fitness center hours are 3 a.m.-10 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 3-9 p.m. Fridays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays. The fitness center is closed on holidays and Spirit days.

Volleyball roundup

Intramural tournament underway

In the opening rounds of the 2004 Whiteman intramural varsity volleyball tournament Tuesday night, four teams advanced while four teams fell into the loser’s bracket in the double-elimination tournament. The second round of the tournament took place Thursday.

The 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, powered by strong hitters, beat the Ladies’ varsity team 22-12, 22-17 to advance to the second round. The Ladies’ team was eliminated from the tournament when it fell to the 509th Communications Squadron in the loser’s bracket 25-21, 28-26.

The 509th Security Forces Squadron beat 509th CS 22-17, 25-22. CS fell to the loser’s bracket but beat the Ladies varsity. The 509th Munitions Squadron beat the 509th Operations Support Squadron by default. The 509th OSS did play their contest in the loser’s bracket later Tuesday, beating the 509th Services Squadron 25-19, 19-25 and 15-11. The 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron beat the 509th SVS 22-20, 25-21 to advance.

Aerobics schedule

Mondays — 6 a.m., 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. spinning; 11 a.m. tae kwon do; 6:15 p.m. yoga; and 5:15 p.m. core strength

Tuesdays — 4:30 p.m. yoga; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. extreme fitness

Wednesdays — 6 a.m., 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. spinning; 11 a.m. tae kwon do; and 5:15 p.m. core strength

Thursday — 11 a.m. tae kwon do; 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. extreme fitness; and 5:15 p.m. step interval

Fridays — 6 a.m., 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., spinning

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What's happening

Community

Tobacco cessation classes set

Tobacco cessation classes begin at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 6 and 13. For more details, call Tech. Sgt. Monica Botch at 687-2199.

Family appreciation day set

The Warrensburg Military Affairs Committee sponsors a Military Family Appreciation Day 5-9 p.m. April 30 at the Warrensburg Community Center. Free food and swimming will be available. Players from the Central Missouri State University basketball and baseball teams will be available to play games with children. The event is open to all military families. For more details or to R.S.V.P., call 687-6123 by today.

Top 3 to award scholarships

The Whiteman Top 3 Association will give away three \$300 scholarship grants to Whiteman Air Force Base members and their families. Scholarship funds come from a variety of Whiteman Top 3 fundraising activities, such as die cast model sales, POW/MIA bracelet sales and other community events. Applications for the scholarship grant are available at the education center or from the Whiteman intraweb at <https://wwwmil.whiteman.af.mil/top3/Scholarships.shtml>. The application package consists of the application

form, transcripts of previous classes and a single-page essay. For more details, call Senior Master Sgt. Teresa Wolfenden at 687-2389.

ALS schedules events

✓ The airman leadership school Class 04-D retreat begins at 4 p.m. April 30 at the base flagpole at Bldg. 509. Participants must be in place by 3:45 p.m.

✓ The ALS Class 04-D reveille begins at 7:30 a.m. May 6 at the ALS drill pad. Participants must be in place by 7:25 a.m.

Prescribed burns scheduled

The Natural Resources Planner will conduct prescribed burns during April. Some of the burns will be conducted at the Royal Oaks Golf Course and at a remnant tract of prairie in Knob Noster. The rest of the burns will be along the base perimeter in unmaintained areas. These burns are used to stimulate native vegetation and to deter invasive species. This will also eliminate woody shrubs and trees along the perimeter, enhancing visibility and increasing base security.

Safety seat inspection set

Family advocacy and the Warrensburg Fire Department host a child safety seat inspection 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday at the Missouri Army National Guard Armory parking lot. This is by appointment only. For more details, or to make an appointment, call 687-4342.

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“ **Quote Worthy** _____

Progress is a nice word. But change is its motivator and change has its enemies.

Robert F. Kennedy _____ ”

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Services page editor.....Nicole Luning
509th Services Squadron.....687-4386
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Stars and Strikes 687-5114

Summer bowling league

Sign up for the summer bowling leagues beginning in May. Tuesdays are regular leagues, Wednesdays are adult and child leagues and Thursdays are mixed leagues. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Fitness Center 687-5496

Lift the B-2s

The B-2 weighs 336,500 pounds. Multiply that by 21 B-2s and the total is 7,066,500 pounds. This will be the total weight each participant lifts in this program. Impossible? Not if you bench press 100 pounds in 10 reps for three total sets. This equals 3,000 pounds. The participant who lifts the most now through June 30 will win a prize. Call the fitness center for more details.

ACC Fitness & Sports Challenge

Support your squadron by competing in the second annual Air Combat Command Fitness & Sports Challenge. May 3 features a 5k run, May 5 features team push-ups, team crunch sit-ups and a wacky ski race, and May 7 features tug-of-war. Whiteman officials will select four men and four women to move to the next level of competition at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. June 7 thru 11. Sign up by Wednesday at the fitness center.

Royal Oaks 687-5572

Kids golf

Children 6-13 can learn how to play golf 9 a.m.-noon May 24 through June 4. The \$49.95 fee includes golf clubs, five one-hour group sessions, a training booklet and a child and parent tournament. The cost for youths with golf clubs is only \$25. Sign up by May 5 at Royal Oaks.

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Intramural bass fishing

The intramural bass fishing competition continues. The third competition is May 6 at Windsor Crossing and the fourth competition is May 20 at Bucksaw Marina. A one-time \$20 entry fee must be paid before the tournament. Call outdoor recreation for rules and more details.

Boater safety class

This required class involves classroom and lake activities for the intended use of rental boats with a 15 horsepower motor or more. A combined class is available 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. May 6, a session one class is available 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday and session two classes are available 1-4:30 p.m. May 1 and 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. May 20. Spaces are limited; sign up early.

Open water scuba orientation

Get qualified to scuba dive on base at an orientation class 5:30-6:30 p.m. May 26. Scuba classes take place 5:30-10 p.m. June 14-18 at the base pool. The \$190 fee includes instruction, books and use of equipment. Sign up by May 26 at outdoor recreation. Call for requirements of personal equipment use and to sign up.

Family horseback riding adventure

Go horseback riding in Ava, Mo., May 8-9. The bus will leave outdoor recreation at 9:30 a.m. May 8 and return by 3:30 p.m. May 9. The \$50 fee per person includes six hours of horseback riding, other extracurricular activities, one night lodging, breakfast, dinner and transportation. This trip is for families only, sign up by May 4.



Youth Center 687-5586

Bump City trip

Fifth through seventh graders can travel to Bump City at Great American Gymnastics 5-10 p.m. May 7 in Blue Springs, Mo. The cost is \$7 for members and \$8.50 for nonmembers. Sign up begins May 3.

Hangout night

Fifth through seventh graders are welcome to hangout night 6-9 p.m. May 1 at the youth center. The cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for nonmembers. Sign up at the youth center.

Part-day specialty camps

Children can enjoy fitness activities, arts and crafts, life skills programs and much more 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. June 7-10, June 14-17 and June 21-24. The \$30 fee for members and \$38 fee for nonmembers for each week, includes lunch, snack, drink and field trip expenses. Children 9-12 can register May 3-June 4. Pick up a registration package at the youth center. Fees are due at the time of sign up.

Pepsi-Pitch, Hit and Run

Youth 7-14 can compete in the Pepsi-Pitch, Hit and Run* beginning at 11 a.m. May 8 at the youth baseball fields. National finalists will receive a trip to Houston, Texas, for the 2004 All-Star week. Register by May 6 for this free event at the youth center.

Skate night

Kindergartners through fourth graders can skate 6:30-9:30 p.m. May 7 at the youth center. The cost is \$5 for members and \$6.50 for nonmembers. Sign up begins Monday.

Air Force Science Adventure camp

Children 7-12 can attend a science adventure camp 9 a.m.-noon May 28 at the youth center. The cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Priority will be given to youth with a deployed parent. Sign up begins May 3.

Babe's Family Fun Center

Kindergartners through fourth graders can travel to Babe's Family Fun Center in Warrensburg 6:30-9:30 p.m. April 30. Children can play in ball pits, on slides, rope swings and more. The cost is \$6 for members and \$7.50 for nonmembers. Sign up begins Monday.

Around the world night

Kindergartners through fourth graders are welcome to around the world night 6:30-9:30 p.m. May 14 at the youth center. Play games and learn about other cultures. The cost is \$5 for members and \$6.50 for nonmembers. Sign up begins May 10.

Teen Center 687-5819

Work site supervisor training

Supervisors interested in teen volunteers for the summer can attend work site supervisor training beginning at 1 p.m. May 4 at the community center. Call the teen center for more details.

Youth employment skills program

Gain work experience through volunteering while earning money toward a college education. Attend a free orientation session to complete required paperwork and learn about possible job sites to volunteer for this summer. Orientation begins at 6 p.m. May 6 or May 20 at the teen center. The participants military sponsor must be present.

Community Activities



Family Child Care 687-5590

Extended Duty Care

Register now for the extended duty care program. It is available to help parents meet child care requirements for extra duty hours and child care emergencies. Care is provided in a contracted, licensed family child care home to augment regular care arrangements. An application must be completed prior to participation.

Child Development Center 687-5588

Developmental Enrichment Program

Developmental Enrichment is accepting enrollments for fall pre-school. It's open to 3- to 5-year-olds not requiring full time care. Children must be 3 years old by July 31.

Drop-in care

The child development center has drop-in day care for children 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on a space available basis.

Ozark Inn 687-5469

Ozark Inn closure

Ozark Inn closes after dinner April 30 and will re-open Aug. 1. Mission's End and Stars & Strikes will have expanded breakfast hours beginning May 3 to accommodate Ozark Inn patrons.

Community Center 687-5617

Family night pajama party

Families can attend a free pajama party 6-8 p.m. Saturday at the community center. Bring a sleeping bag, play games and more. No sign up is needed.

Bus trip to Kaufman Stadium

Take a bus trip to see the Royals vs. Rangers baseball game 5:30-11 p.m. Tuesday at Kaufman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo. The \$10 fee includes transportation and admission. Sign up before the day of the event at the community center.

Tantalizing toddler contest

Enter your toddler's picture into the tantalizing toddler contest May 3-8. Children must be 12- to 24-months old. Pictures will be displayed at the community center to vote. Votes will be counted May 28. Call for more details for this free event.

Skate park certification class

A skate park certification class begins at 5 p.m. May 6. Learn safety rules and register for a helmet sticker. The cost is \$5. Participants must be accompanied by a parent.

X-treme wheels expo and competition

Ollies Skate Team*, from Sedalia will have a skateboard-ing exhibition at 1 p.m. May 8 at the skate park. Register for events the day of the competition. Non-certified skaters must attend the certification class.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Elegant decoupage boxes

Learn to make a decoupage box 10 a.m.-noon May 8 at the skills development center. The \$10 fee includes instruction and supplies. Sign up by noon May 7.

Framing class

Take a framing class 9 a.m.-noon May 5 at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes instruction and supplies. Sign up by noon May 4.



Food & Fun



Mission's End 687-4422

Mongolian barbecue

A Mongolian barbecue takes place 5:30-8 p.m. May 7 at Mission's End. Pork, beef, shrimp, egg rolls, rice and more will be offered. The cost is \$10.95 for members and \$12.95 for nonmembers.

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights 7 p.m. PG-13
Starring — Diego Luna & Romola Garai

Saturday

Secret Window 7 p.m. PG-13
Starring — Johnny Depp & John Turturro

Sunday

Spartan 5:30 p.m. R
Starring — Val Kilmer & Derek Luke